

**DIRECTOR'S REPORT**  
**Texas ALP 2008 Fall Board Meeting & Educational Conference**  
**September 19-20, 2008**  
**Homewood Suites // Wichita Falls, Texas**

Submitted by Sheryl A. Mann

NOTE: All certification designations have been deleted from this report in the interest of brevity.

Kathie Jean Keys and I attended the Texas ALP 2008 Fall Board Meeting & Educational Conference held in Wichita Falls on September 19-20, 2008. The conference began Friday morning with Texas ALP Committee meeting. Kathie Jean and I, as Co-Chairs of the Texas ALP Finance Committee, set up Texas ALP finance items for sale, and also coordinated with members who donated holiday-themed raffle items.

A noon welcome reception was held, which gave us the opportunity to meet and greet fellow members and friends from around the state, as well as become acquainted with newcomers and first-timers.

It was then time to get down to business. Real estate and personal injury seminars were presented, followed by the Open Forum and Provide Your Input session. During the Open Forum and Provide Your Input session, there was an overview of the new officer structure and funding to NALS meetings, discussion about the budget, trial memberships, proposed bylaw/standing rule amendments and meeting guidelines, Texas ALP web site, and remarks by Doris Compton, Region 6 Director.

The Leadership Committee provided the education for our Leadership Dinner on Friday night, by way of a panel discussion by three past presidents of Texas ALP, which panel included our own Kathie Jean Keys.

Saturday morning began early for Kathie Jean and me---we had to make sure the Finance table and Holiday raffle items were ready to go. Fortunately for us, we were situated in the same room with all the seminars/speakers so we got some additional education as well. The Saturday seminars included Ethics in Mediation, Criminal Law, and Federal Update: the Judicial Process.

At 1:30 p.m., President Leslie Stokes called the business meeting to order.

Words of Remembrance were provided by Julie Abernathy. The Wichita Falls Police Department presented the Colors, the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag of the United States was led by Jessica Tandy, and the Code of Ethics was read by Doris Compton. Betty Wells was appointed to serve as Secretary for the meeting. President Leslie introduced Texas ALP members serving as NALS officers, chairmen, or committee members, and recognized first-timers.

Barbara Sucsy was appointed to serve as judge, and Sharon Simpson and Gina Kammerdiener were appointed to serve as tellers to count all votes. Tina Hurley was appointed as timekeeper to enforce the three-minute rule. President Stokes instructed the voting body on proper parliamentary format on motions and business, and announced that since the instructions

on the rules of procedure were furnished in writing to the voting body prior to the meeting, the reading of same was waived.

Credentials Chairman Jane Harrison reported 18 officers and directors were seated, for a simple majority of 10, and a two-thirds majority of 12.

The Consent Agenda, consisting of the Executive Committee Report, Minutes of the 2008 Annual Meeting, Financial Review Report, and Treasurer's Report, was adopted. Attached are the Board of Directors Actions and the Executive Committee Actions. Treasurer Kristy Turner discussed the franchise tax exemption and Form 990, which is due on September 15 of each year.

Fort Worth Annual Meeting Co-Chairman Sharon Simpson presented a check to Texas ALP for \$3,446.31. Donna Dendy reported on behalf of Waco Annual Education Conference Chairman Brenda Atteberry. The Conference will be held May 1-2, 2009, at the Clarion Hotel, with room rates of \$94 for single-double-triple-quad occupancy. The Business Meeting is scheduled for Saturday, May 2, 2009. Mardi Gras will be the theme for the welcome reception, and attendees are asked to wear their favorite Mardi Gras masks. Think Hawaii when planning for the President's Banquet. Plan on wearing your best Hawaiian muumuu, but nix the grass skirt and coconut bra.

The 2009 Fall Education Conference will be held at the Radisson Downtown in San Antonio on October 2-3, 2009.

Education Chairman Sylvia Vela reported on a continuing education session to be offered in Austin on February 21, 2009. The location and fees have not been approved, but education topics may include ethics, intellectual property, technology, non-profit as it relates to fiduciary duties, litigation, labor law, real estate/oil and gas as it relates to mineral rights.

Membership Chairman Betty Wells reported there are 533 members of Texas ALP. She announced the continuation of her membership campaign, and encouraged members to get their tickets punched in order to receive recognition at the end of the campaign. Chairman Wells stated the numerous ways to get your ticket punched: be a member in good standing, serve as a chairman or be a committee member, attend Texas ALP meetings, attend optional events, be a PAL, wear certification pins, sponsor a new member, prepare an article for *The Texas Round-Up*, renew your membership, read *The Texas Round-Up*, answer questions from *The Texas Round-Up*, donate raffle items.

Wichita Falls Board Meeting Chairman Dianna Roberts announced there were 54 members in attendance. Certification Chairman Tina Hurley reported that there is no fee for taking certification quizzes.

Finance Co-Chairman Kathie Jean Keys reported on new finance items, requested that members complete a T-shirt poll, and encouraged everyone to purchase finance items or tickets for the raffle prizes.

President-Elect Mary Smith reported that she is seeking members for her leadership team. She circulated Preference Sheets and requested everyone to consider serving as either a chairman or a committee member.

Bylaws/Standing Rules Chairman Donna Dendy presented the proposed amendments. The proposed amendments were submitted to all members for review and, after a vote of the Board of Directors, all proposed amendments were carried. Attached are those proposed amendments.

President Stokes recognized chapters with anniversaries during this reporting period: Greater Dallas, 18 years; San Antonio, 51 years; Southeast Texas, 48 years; Wichita Falls, 50 years; Midland, 47 years; and El Paso, 40 years.

Following presentations and announcements, President Stokes adjourned the Fall Board of Directors' Meeting.

Saturday night we loaded into trolleys, which took us to the Kemp Center for the Arts. We were treated to a wonderful barbeque dinner, and then we sat back and enjoyed the reminiscing over the past 50 years of Wichita County Legal Secretaries Association.

Sunday morning was a time of packing, eating breakfast, saying good-bye to friends both old and new, and head back to Corpus Christi. Kathie Jean and I hit the road pretty early because we had a long drive ahead of us. Our trip home was uneventful, but certainly we had lots of fond memories from the weekend just past. The next Texas ALP conference will be held in Waco on May 1-2, 2009. If you have never attended a Texas ALP conference, this is a great opportunity to do so. A Texas ALP conference is a great occasion for networking and making new friends, getting some terrific continuing legal education, observing the professionalism of your state officers and board members, and having fun!

I appreciated the opportunity to serve as your director—I look forward to serving again in Waco!